

The Florida House of Representatives

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Legislation to Change the Appointment Process to Judicial Nominating Commissions Passes House Civil Justice Subcommittee

Tallahassee, Fla. – A proposed committee bill (PCB) that would change the appointment process to Judicial Nominating Commissions (JNCs) today passed the House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

"I thank my colleagues in the House Civil Justice Subcommittee today for passing this good bill," said Representative Matt Gaetz (R-Fort Walton Beach), sponsor of the bill. "Nominations and appointments to the judicial branch of our government should not be effected or influenced by third parties who do not have to answer to the citizens of Florida and this legislation simply codifies that principle into law."

"This bill removes unaccountable outside entities from the process and makes the Governor directly accountable to the people for his judicial appointments," said Representative Eric Eisnaugle (R-Orlando), chair of the House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

"A level of accountability and transparency is essential in our judicial appointment system," said Representative William Snyder (R-Stuart), chair of the House Judiciary Committee. "By instituting a system by which the Governor is the only party responsible for appointing members to the Judicial Nominating Commissions without input from an unaccountable body, the system will become inherently more accountable to the voters of Florida."